

WONDERS OF THE FAIR "SEEN" AND DESCRIBED BY MISS HELEN KELLER

Marvelous Blind and Deaf Girl, Who Once Was Dumb, Tells Her Impressions of St. Louis---Persons Who Met Her Regard Her as the Ideal Type of American Womanhood, Her Mind Triumphant Over Physical Infirmities---Slender and Girlish, She Is the Embodiment of Grace.



Her Book, "The Story of My Life," Is an Eloquent Tribute to Her Tutor, Miss Sullivan---Intensely Expressive Face, Often Lighted by the Rarest of Smiles, Tells Her Hearers What Words Fail to Convey.

When Helen Keller, the blind, deaf and dumb girl, left St. Louis, after a visit to the World's Fair, Tuesday night, she said to those who were there to bid her good-by:

"It is a wonderful, wonderful place, your World's Fair. I do not think I have ever seen anything more beautiful."

Members of the party looked at each other and then at this girl, who had no eyes with which to see and no ears that could hear, and their own eyes grew dim with a mist that would not go away.

It was true, however, that she had seen, and she had more carefully seen the wonders of the World's Fair than thousands of visitors, possessed of all their faculties.

Miss Keller had a glorious time. She was feted and petted everywhere during her visit to the World's Fair, and she saw through the eyes of her teacher, Miss Anne Sullivan, all the beauties of the Fair and, unlike many visitors, she appreciated them to the fullest extent.

This ability on the part of Miss Sullivan to impart to her pupil the finest shades of meaning with the deft touch of fingers, taking the place of spoken language, was the one thing that deeply interested those who saw Helen Keller. Miss Sullivan is all but a part of the being of Helen Keller. In "The Story of My Life," written by Helen Keller, she says: "But for Miss Sullivan's genius, untiring perseverance and devotion I could not have progressed so far as I have toward natural speech."

Miss Keller's fund of knowledge and the diversified character of her education also deeply interested those with whom she came in contact in St. Louis. Think of a girl who is totally deaf, blind and who has acquired language, without even having heard it, yet who reads "Aesop's Fables" in the original Latin, who translates Schiller's wonderful poems from the German and who can enjoy French writers at their best--in their own French idiom.

DARLING OF THE PEOPLE.
During her stay in St. Louis Helen Keller was the darling of the people. People followed her wherever she went. On every hand her wit, her intelligence, her beauty and grace and her perfect womanhood were the theme of the hour. Yet, beside Helen Keller walked as truly a great and wonderful woman, Miss Anne Sullivan.

Helen Keller's wonderful accomplishments are but the reflection of the master mind of Anne Sullivan. Not in all the universe is there a more spontaneous, merry laugh than that of Anne Sullivan. It is a rippling laugh. Miss Sullivan possesses a strong personality, yet charming and gentle manners. Surrounded by such influence, how could Helen Keller help but being the perfect creature, the ideal woman she is?

In her book, "The Story of My Life," Helen Keller tells of her "fits of temper" and of her willfulness and of her desire to dominate over playmates and of her treatment of her baby sister. Had one of a different temperament than that of Anne Sullivan become her tutor, would the result have been the same?

To-day Helen Keller stands as the ideal type of American womanhood. The night of her reception at the Missouri building, clad in her snowy white dress, her face radiant with happiness, she reminded one of these things:

what her words fail to convey. Human speech cannot express what Helen Keller's face can, when the expression is of joy and gratitude.

HAS KEEN INTELLECT.
In form she is slender and girlish, of about the average height. She is spiritual in appearance and the embodiment of grace. She does not have the shuffling, feeling steps of the blind. Her walk is graceful and full of freedom. Her nature is sympathetic and her disposition lovable. Her intellect keen and alert.

Her sympathetic nature was best portrayed when she greeted those afflicted as she herself is. Her friends tried to shield her from meeting and shaking hands with the public, but as if by instinct, whenever a deaf-mute or a blind person drew near, Helen Keller knew it, and the willingness of her childhood asserted itself, and she clasped them by the hand and gave to them the message of hope and cheer. Hers is a generous disposition, and she would willingly tax her frail strength to cheer the darkness of another's life, or to give words of cheer by the touch of the hand to the deaf.

Her loving disposition is best known by her manner toward her beloved teacher. Her touch, her attitude toward Miss Sullivan is burdened with love and gratitude. Another striking incident of this characteristic was her greeting to her benefactor, William Wade.

As he touched her hand she recognized him, and she threw both arms around his neck and kissed him, as a child would her father. Nor was she content, unless Mr. Wade was sitting near her, so that she might put her hand out and touch him. It was when Mr. Wade was near her that Helen Keller's face wore the most radiant happy smile. Words cannot express, nor brush paint Helen Keller's face the moment she met William Wade the night of her reception at the Missouri building.

Her love for children seems to tell her what her words fail to convey. Frequently she would be walking, holding to the arm of her escort, when she would turn and walk from him toward a mother holding her baby in her arms. She would kiss the baby and utter words of endearment to it, such as only a loving nature can utter. Chubby little hands would clasp the soft, delicate fingers unwilling to let go, for babies know people who are truly gentle and great.

MOST TALKED OF SPEECH.
Helen Keller's address at the Hall of Congress was perhaps the most talked-of speech that has been yet delivered on the grounds.

"I come not for aught that I have done, but for what has been done for me to raise me to the level of those who see and hear. I testify to what the good and the strong have done for deprivation and infirmity."

"I bring my evidence that men and women are doing their best to untangle the ears of the deaf, open the eyes of the blind, put speech upon dumb lips and bring the light of intelligence to darkened minds. I enter with you into communion of living speech, and for the joy of speech I express my heartfelt gratitude that the impediment of dumbness has been removed from my tongue. Such is my brief message to those who have asked me to come and to those who sit before me."

This is the greeting which Helen Keller, who, though blind, deaf, and dumb, is possessed of gifts, accomplishments and abilities not within the scope of all the faculties of the more favored, gave to the thousands who thronged the Congress Hall at the World's Fair on Helen Keller Day. It is her greeting to

the world. It is characteristic of Helen Keller.

There was nothing in the exhibits, but what she understood with a conception that made the wondering crowds gasp with amazement. Her comprehension of the subjects explained to her was the marvel of all who heard her, and the delight of the person who was lucky enough to have the good fortune to talk to Miss Keller.

She is thoroughly familiar with the agricultural products of her country. She can tell the States that produce the best corn, the best wheat and the best potatoes. By the touch she can tell the name of the finest grain. She can distinguish fruit by the touch, and flowers.

She is passionately fond of flowers. She loves to inhale their fragrance.

VERSED ON ALL TOPICS.

Through her desire to be as seeing people are, Miss Keller has acquired a remarkable source of information on the current topics of the day and of the history of other countries. She would express a desire to see certain exhibits.

"Take me to the Varied Industries building. I want to see the Japanese exhibit. I have read so much about their wonderful work. I want to see their cloisonne ware and their fine embroideries. And I want to see the rare collection of rugs, pottery and jewels in the Persian exhibit," she said.

"Where is the Persian exhibit?" asked one of her party.

"In the Varied Industries building," answered Miss Keller with the assurance of one who knows, when Miss Sullivan asked Miss Keller if she knew.

"The entire Exposition is wonderful, it is beautiful, but I think the exhibit in the agricultural line is the greatest. I never knew before that there were so many different varieties of corn, oats and wheat. It is wonderful. What fine potatoes Nevada has produced. I am glad they are irrigating that waste land and making it fertile. One would make a dinner for a large family."

"Tobacco," said Miss Keller as she sniffed the air. "We must be near Kentucky or Virginia, perhaps it is Tennessee. Let me see the tobacco!"

She was led to the Tennessee exhibit, and there she found the tobacco which she praised as being "fine leaves."

When asked why she took such a keen delight in the agricultural exhibit, she replied:

"Because my country leads the world in agricultural products, and I want to know all about them. Besides, if it were not for the agriculture of the country we could not exist. The farmer is the king of men. He does more for mankind than any other."

The visit of Helen Keller and her teacher, Miss Sullivan, to St. Louis and the World's Fair, has brought the blind that are in our midst to our attention, the pupils of the Missouri School of the Blind.

Every morning at 9:30 an Easton avenue car stops in front of the Missouri School for the Blind, No. 187 Morgan street, and fifty blind pupils, ranging from the age of 8 to 20, with a corps of teachers, enter the car and are taken to the Education building at the World's Fair, where they give practical demonstrations of how the blind are taught. There are classes in manual training and domestic science, in music, and in all grades of school work, including a High School class, for four bright young men, George Dieter of St. Joseph, Waldemar Keitel, St. Louis; Edward Golterman, St. Louis, and Irwin Lindner.

Every morning the principal of the High School, Miss Harriet Rees, makes a bulletin of the St. Louis Republic headlines in braille. The pupils read the headlines and then tell Miss Rees the stories they wish to hear. The first thing is the war news.

The pupils of Miss Rees's High School class are thoroughly posted on the war news, and all that is going on in the world, although they cannot see. They are perhaps the best posted in the city of St. Louis upon current topics. Miss Rees is a great believer in that the daily newspaper should be a factor of the school education, especially in that of the blind.

Each day Miss Rees takes her pupils sight-seeing through the Fair. They see through her eyes and their sense of feeling things that the vast crowds have not looked upon, judging from the interesting

papers which they write daily upon the various exhibits.

They were present when Helen Keller made her address in Congress Hall. The next day, in the presence of several hundred people, Miss Rees called for a paper on the address and the impression Helen Keller had made upon them. She gave them twenty minutes in which to write the paper.

The following is the paper written in braille, by George Dieter and read by him to the visitors at the Missouri blind school exhibit.

It was afterward translated by little Margaret Wade, 12 years old, this being her third school year. Margaret has had three months' instruction in typewriting. She is totally blind, but her sense of touch is remarkable, and her intellect unusually bright.

BY GEORGE DIETER.

The exercises in Congress Hall in honor of Miss Helen Keller were opened by an address by President Francis, followed by one by Miss Keller herself. The following are some of the interesting and impressive things she said:

"Yonder stand the locomotives which annihilate distance, there are the irrigation processes which annihilate the desert, here are the educational exhibits, showing the enlightenment brought and placed within the grasp of all, and all the forces displayed in this great Exposition are but testimonials of what man can achieve when his spirit is willing and his arm is free."

"Come not here for aught that I have done, but for what has been done for me."

The World's Fair received its greatest compliment from her own lips when she said that a new vocabulary would be needed to describe its beauty and greatness.

Miss Keller is an inspiration and an encouragement to all who have the good fortune of hearing her utter one sentence.

PATRIOTIC JAPANESE
CONFIDENT OF VICTORY.

Women and Children Contribute Part of Their Earnings to the War Funds.

"The Japanese are confident of victory, and every woman and child who can earn a few yen contributes to the war fund, though to travel through the country one would see no evidence of the life-and-death struggle in which defeat for Japan means a menace of her national existence," said Thomas D. McKay of Yokohama, Oriental agent of the Union Pacific Railroad, in discussing the Russo-Japanese war at the Planters Hotel yesterday.

"The mills and manufactories are being operated just as they were before the war began, but instead of men doing the work women and children are employed to a great extent, and every one of them makes a weekly contribution to the war fund. Each victory is celebrated with a parade, even children, headed by a band, marching through the streets singing the national anthem. These celebrations are always marked by a display of fireworks, marvelous in conception."

"And when the Japanese take Port Arthur, which they will eventually do, there will be such a demonstration as Japan has never seen. For some time iron bars have been run along the principal streets of Yokohama, Nagasaki, Kobe, Tokio and other cities, and the moment the news is received of the fall of Port Arthur these roads will be strung with fireworks, which will attract the people, and then will follow a grand parade."

"The war news is conveyed to the people by means of extra editions of the papers. These extras are delivered sometimes only ten minutes apart, and the carriers are dressed in red, wearing a belt to which is attached bells. He comes up the street on a run, and the ringing of the bells attracts the people to the streets to learn the news."

"If the victory should be an important one the musicians are hastily summoned and a parade, growing in numbers, follows the messenger through the streets, the band playing and the marchers singing and shouting."

"I don't think there is any doubt about Japan having ample funds to prosecute the war, and if she hasn't there will be little difficulty for the Government to negotiate the necessary loan. It has cost hundreds of millions to carry on the war to date, but the Japanese troops in the field are well provided for, while the people of Japan would, in their patriotism, do without themselves in order that the fighting men might have the required provisions, clothing, etc."

"The valor of the Japanese troops has been remarkable, but with such patriotism at home and so much depending upon the result in Manchuria the daring of the men is not to be wondered at. The soldiers realize that they are fighting for national existence, and a Japanese victory means much to the world. It means the development of China, which is one of the richest countries in the world in natural resources, and the whole world is interested in the struggle."